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JACKSON DAILY NEWS

Mississippi's Greatest Newspaper

FREDERICK SULLENS, Editor, 1906-1957

JAMES M. WARD, Editor

MISSISSIPPI PUBLISHERS CORP., Publishers

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1961

Here Is Why We Guard Those Southern Customs

Despite all the arguments of the TV commentators, the do-gooders and the plate-passing "uplift" societies which travel under the guise of seeking freedom, etc., what is the end result of their activities?

The answer is well-known to Southern people, but our good people—equipped with a degree of common sense — are so slandered and abused any thoughts we have on the subject are usually met with rebuttal and malicious counterattack with ill-conceived logic.

Let's take an example of what happens in the wake of CORE's objectives. The following is presented, not as a case of finger-pointing at America, but as absolute reminder of what these people can do to a sane society.

It is also presented for the sake of the many members of the press and TV who are down South to tell the nation about CORE's sleazy mission performed in the name of freedom.

Just a few blocks from headquarters of both CORE and the NAACP in New York can be found a prime example of their "lofty" achievements. Our source is a story in the New York World-Telegram and Sun of Tuesday, May 23, 1961—the day when CORE's social bandits were preparing to invade Mississippi.

The scene: Morningside Heights in New York.

A 43-year-old Morningside Heights wife, mother of two, a native of Indiana who was visiting in New York to study to be a social worker, had not believed what she had been told about the danger in the park across the street. She visited Morningside Park.

She was attacked by a sex pervert minutes after entering the park.

Here are a few quotes from the New York newspaper:

"The woman's fears reflect those of many residents of Manhattan's upper West Side. Morningside Heights is a citadel of culture, world-famed as the American Acropolis, but street crime and violence have turned the area into a night-time prison for hundreds of its people.

"The residents of the community wish only to live in peace and safety; but many of them have been the victims of street assaults and now, terror-stricken, they are afraid to leave their homes at night. And they are wary even in daylight hours."

(Mississippians should ponder long the above paragraph. This is what the leadership of Mississippi, white and colored, do not want for ourselves. That paragraph tells why we insist on maintaining established, tested social customs—regardless of what any invading hordes of crackpots try to force upon us.)

Continuing the New York paper's description of its crime-pocked area, it is revealed that the area described is (or rather once was) a seat of culture — where more than 30,000 students of all ages and interests come from 57 nations of the world to try to learn more about the true things of life.

Residents of the area include students at Columbia, Barnard and Teachers College and the Julliard School of Music; to live and work together at International House; to worship at Riverside Church, the cathedral of St. John the Divine and Corpus Christi Church, and to train as ministers and rabbis at Union Theological

Seminary and Jewish Theological Seminary.

That's the cultural side of Morningside. What a pity it cannot exist in that atmosphere. What a pity Morningside's second face — rapings, muggings and knifings—glows so damnably through the shadows of culture.

Here's what a New York reporter finds:

"But as darkness comes to this handsome old neighborhood, the 31-acre Morningside Park which borders the area casts a long shadow of fear over the community.

"Out of Morningside Park then climb the muggers, the purse thieves, the car looters, the drug addicts and the sex maniacs.

"At an average of every two hours, night and day and every day, there is a crime or a complaint of crime.

"After dark, Morningside Heights is no longer a proud New York address and a college-like community but a 'victim area' attacked by hoodlums from other sections of the city. Screams of fright and the sound of a thief in flight, heels pounding the pavement, are heard all too often. . .

"While some of the country's most distinguished scholars are at work at Columbia and the other premier institutions in the area, Morningside residents nearby will wait and worry because of a neighbor, a relative or a friend is out in the night. . .

"Drug addicts, armed with a screw driver or a can opener, scour the area in search of plunder which will buy them their next 'fix.' They operate with high speed and consummate skill and in a matter of seconds can break into a locked car. . .

"The once-beautiful Morningside Park is looked upon by the residents as 'a jungle.' The grounds are littered with broken whisky bottles, discarded beer cans. Trees and shrubs suffer from neglect. The park serves best as an escape route and refuge for plunders."

There's more of the same. But you've had enough.

This is the wake of CORE's dainty missionary work.

Mississippians are told we must accept this sort of "abundant, rich" life.

Do-gooders, supposedly intelligent news commentators tell Southern people we must adopt that form of society.

Federal government officials tell us this is the way of life that must be forced upon us.

And they keep coming, their mission of hate obviously timed to insist upon a mob scene in order to embarrass President Kennedy so he will be at a disadvantage when he meets the Communist boss in Vienna.

It would appear CORE will continue to send provoking messengers of hate, apparently until someone in Moscow taps out word to quit.

The message comes through to Mississippians.

No intelligent person here desires to entertain their motives of creating violence. We are patient.

As it has done before during the South's many moments of trial, this junk will pass and the screwballs will vanish.

Meanwhile, it is up to all of us to see clearly through Morningside Heights and remind ourselves once again. We want no part of that unfortunate community's debased society of fear.